

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

OFFICE OF THE VICE CHIEF OF STAFF 201 ARMY PENTAGON WASHINGTON DC 20310-0201

**DACS-ZB** 

22 July 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR: Captains Career Course Students

SUBJECT: Army Emergency Relief

- 1. Congratulations on your selection for attendance at the Captains Career Course. As you enter Company/Battery command, I encourage you to create a greater awareness of the extraordinary ability for Army Emergency Relief (AER) to respond to the financial needs of Soldiers and their Families.
- 2. As the U.S. Army conducts worldwide deployments in support of National Security requirements, AER will continue to be a valuable resource in providing financial assistance to Soldiers and their Families for a wide variety of needs to include funds for emergency travel, vehicle repair, rent, utilities, medical bills and funeral expenses. The Commander's Referral program, which provides Company/Battery Commanders and First Sergeants the authority to approve up to \$1,500 in interest free loans, has proven to be immensely successful by empowering the immediate chain of command to help Soldiers with their personal financial management.
- 3. Army Emergency Relief is a Commanders program that has been an integral part of Army life for the past 71 years. It is essential that our Soldiers and their Families are not disadvantaged in a time of financial need because they did not fully appreciate the benefits of Army Emergency Relief.
- 4. Thank you very much for all that you do every day in leading and caring for our Soldiers and their Families and all the very best for continued success.

JOHN F. CAMPBELL General, U.S. Army

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